COA Conversations 2021

Tonic	Thesis Statement	Commission	Confirmed Guest(s)	Scheduled (Date)	COA	Drangrad Questions
Topic	Thesis Statement	Leaders	Confirmed Guest(s) Dr. Melissa Cannon,	(Date)	Moderator	Prepared Questions 1. Tell us about what you do and how it relates to older
			Associate Professor of			adults. In your work over the past year during the
			Gerontology at			pandemic, what stands out to you as the biggest
			Western Oregon			challenges and impacts to older adults?
			University			2. With vaccines rolling out, it seems like we have some
	The pandemic has had a significant impact on older					hope about coming out of the pandemic. When you
	adults in Clark County, as around the world. Many are		Neil Degerstedt,			think about recovery from the pandemic, what does
	talking about "when we come out of the pandemic,"		Regional Ombudsman,			that look like?
	but there is little information on "how we are to		Long Term Care			3. What are some specific near-term actions you think
	recover," especially for older adults. We will start by		Ombudsman Program,			need to be taken as part of the recovery process?
	talking with a couple of experts about the various stops		Area Agency on Aging & Disabilities SW WA			4. Longer term, what can we do to increase community
Kick-off/Overview	along the road to recovery from a pandemic for older adults in Clark County.	Chuck, Larry	(AAADSW)	Mar. 17	Chuck	and older adult resilience to future pandemics or crises?
Rick Off Overview	Many older adults needed more help than usual during	Clidck, Larry	(AAADSW)	IVIAI. 17	CHUCK	Crises:
	the Pandemic and were not prepared to navigate the					
	complexities including getting groceries, wearing					
	masks, and getting vaccinated. During emergencies,		Jacleen Simons,			
	the Fire Department is first on the scene for immediate		Regional Preparedness			1. What are the usual services you offer to older adults?
	problems and the Red Cross comes next to help with		Program Manager,			Which ones have been needed most frequently during
	early needs like food, shelter and emotional support.		American Red Cross,			the Pandemic?
	The Red Cross also offers help making plans for future		Cascades Region			2. How should older adults prepare for the next Pandemic?
	emergencies. Representatives from both groups		Chief Debert Milese			3. What makes it easier for you to do your jobs as
	will discuss what could have been in place to avert		Chief Robert Milano, Emergency Medical			efficiently as possible? 4. Do you do any neighborhood organizing to help isolated
First and Early	disasters to allow them to do their jobs more		Services, City of			older adults while they wait for your services (like Map
Responders	efficiently.	Amy, Franklin	Vancouver	Apr. 21		My Neighborhood)?

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Health and Wellbeing Session #1: Serious Illness and Caregiver	Total wellbeing is inextricably tied to community culture, extending beyond the walls of today's healthcare system. When fostering an inclusive healthcare ecosystem where older adults can thrive, communities should consider: • Accessibility to comprehensive physical and mental health services • Importance food plays in chronic illness, mental and physical health • Disparities in health literacy and access to accurate health-related education • Needs of caregivers: support networks, education and training • New issues and needs post-COVID How do we build a healthy and robust community	Pam, Meghan,	Peggy Maguire, President, Cambia			
Support	supporting older citizens to live their best life?	Nancy, Tanya	Health Foundation	May 19	Tanya	
	Total wellbeing is inextricably tied to community culture, extending beyond the walls of today's healthcare system. When fostering an inclusive healthcare ecosystem where older adults can thrive, communities should consider: • Accessibility to comprehensive physical and mental health services • Importance food plays in chronic illness, mental and physical health • Disparities in health literacy and access to accurate health-related education • Needs of caregivers: support networks, education and training		Neal Barnard, author, clinical researcher, president of Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine			
Health and Wellbeing	New issues and needs post-COVID		Suzanne Washington,			
Session #2: Food as	How do we build a healthy and robust community	Pam, Meghan,	CEO Meals on Wheels		Nancy or	
Medicine	supporting older citizens to live their best life?	Nancy, Tanya	People	Jul. 21	Pam	

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Health and Wellbeing Session #3: Social Determinants of	Total wellbeing is inextricably tied to community culture, extending beyond the walls of today's healthcare system. When fostering an inclusive healthcare ecosystem where older adults can thrive, communities should consider: • Accessibility to comprehensive physical and mental health services • Importance food plays in chronic illness, mental and physical health • Disparities in health literacy and access to accurate health-related education • Needs of caregivers: support networks, education and training • New issues and needs post-COVID How do we build a healthy and robust community	Pam, Meghan,			Meghan or	
Health	supporting older citizens to live their best life?	Nancy, Tanya			Tanya	
Healthy and Connected Communities: Intersections and Opportunities for Social Connections	Citizens living in socially connected communities are more likely to thrive. (article) Those who feel a sense of security, belonging and trust have better health outcomes. (RWJ) • Where are we succeeding in Clark County to drive community connectedness and support healthy, vibrant aging? • What can we learn from other communities who have succeeded? • What are the steps to achieve the ideal state?	Chuck, Tanya				
Personal Economics/Financial Recovery	What are the economic impacts to older adults in the region from COVID? What steps should the older adult community take to economically recover in 2021 and beyond? Does the COVID stimulus package(s) have any effect?	Chuck				